

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

March 15, 2016

Proposition 47 State Savings

The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act (Proposition 47), as approved by voters in November 2014, reduced certain non-serious and non-violent drug and property offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Proposition 47 redirects State savings from the implementation of the Act into grants for school truancy prevention programs, victim services, and local recidivism reduction and diversion programs.

The Governor's January Budget estimates Proposition 47 State savings to be \$29.3 million in FY 2015-2016, which would be available for expenditure statewide in FY 2016-17. In subsequent years, the Administration projects on-going savings to be approximately \$57.0 million annually. However, on February 12, 2016, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released a report that estimates that the State savings generated by Proposition 47 in the first year are approximately \$100.0 million higher than the Administration's projections. The LAO report provides the State Legislature with an alternative framework by which the State can more appropriately evaluate the savings related to Proposition 47 implementation, namely those related to prison savings, out-of-state contract bed reductions, and court savings.

The County has demonstrated its commitment to the implementation and success of Proposition 47; to proactively pursuing options to help hundreds of thousands of individuals reclassify their records pursuant to the Act; and to advancing the larger principles of diversion and reentry. 65 percent of the Proposition 47 State savings are delegated to providing local agencies with grant funding for expanding recidivism reduction and diversion programs. Maximizing those available savings through a more inclusive and transparent fiscal methodology, as recommended by the LAO, would provide local agencies with significantly more funding for reentry, substance abuse, mental health and other supportive services that would help divert more individuals from both the State and local criminal justice systems. Increased funding for these

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programs is particularly crucial to areas disproportionately impacted by poverty and crime, such as the Los Angeles region.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter to the Governor and the Legislative Leadership requesting they: 1) adopt a methodology for maximizing Proposition 47 savings that aligns with the framework recommended by the Legislative Analyst's Office; and 2) adopt guidelines that would direct the Proposition 47 grant moneys to be distributed to local agencies based proportionately on US Census Bureau Data on poverty thresholds; rates of unemployment ~~and~~ or homelessness; populations of probationers, parolees, and juvenile offenders; and rates of violent and non-violent crimes.

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